



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

This application is a continuation of:

Serial No. 09/271,304 filed March 17, 1990

Which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,906 630

Filed September 5, 1996

Which is a continuation of U.S. Patent No. 5,575,816,

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Applicant(s): Rudnick et al.

Serial No.: (09/977,823

Filed: October 15, 2001

For: NESTED STENT

(AS AMENDED HEREIN)

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Group Art Unit:

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I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail, postpaid in an envelope, addressed to: Commissioner of Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date: <u>January 11, 2002</u>

Signature: M.J. Mullin/

Commissioner for Patents Washington, DC 20231-0001

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.111

Sir:

In advance of prosecution of the above-identified application, please amend the

application as follows:

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IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete the title and substitute therefore -- NESTED STENT--.